

The Bulletins are published weekly throughout the school year (thirty issues) to aid teachers and students in keeping abreast of geography behind current news events.

# GEOGRAPHIC SCHOOL BULLETINS

of  
The National Geographic Society  
WASHINGTON 6, D. C.

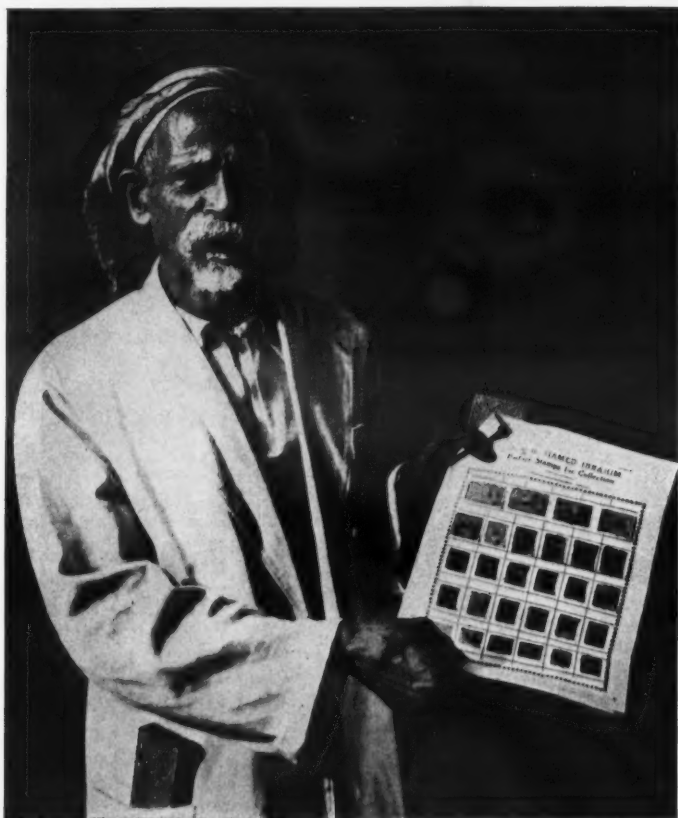
The National Geographic Society is a non-profit educational and scientific Society established for the increase of geographic knowledge and its popular diffusion.

VOLUME XXVI

January 5, 1948

NUMBER 12

1. Palestine Division Affects Bible Landmarks
2. New Port at Matarani Is South Peru Gateway
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5. Milan Sets Italy's Pace in Art and Commerce



MAYNARD OWEN WILLIAMS

THE WORLD-WIDE APPEAL OF STAMPS: A HADHRAUT ARAB IN SINGAPORE PEDDLES THEM TO THE CITY'S CHINESE, EAST INDIAN, AND OCCIDENTAL RESIDENTS (Bulletin No. 4)

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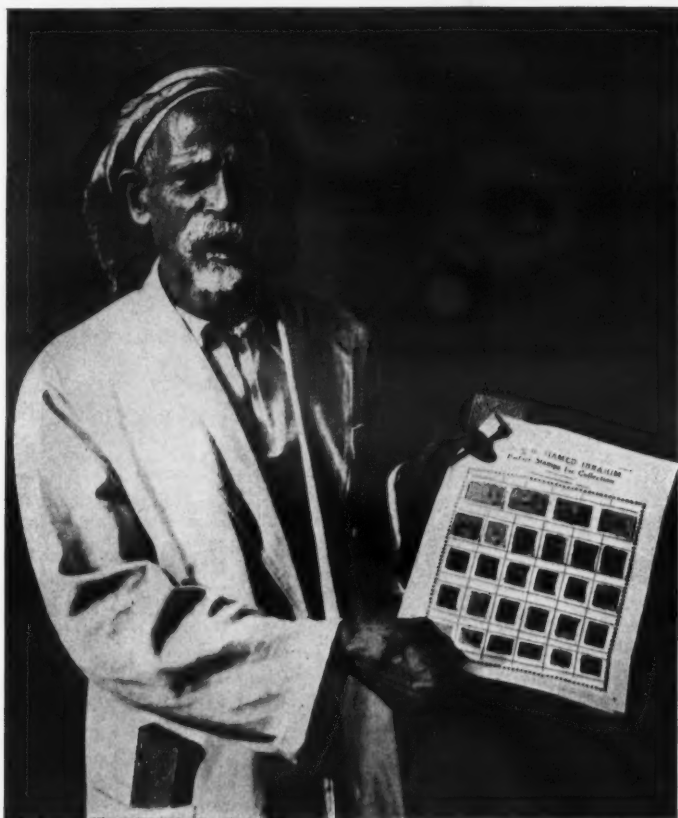
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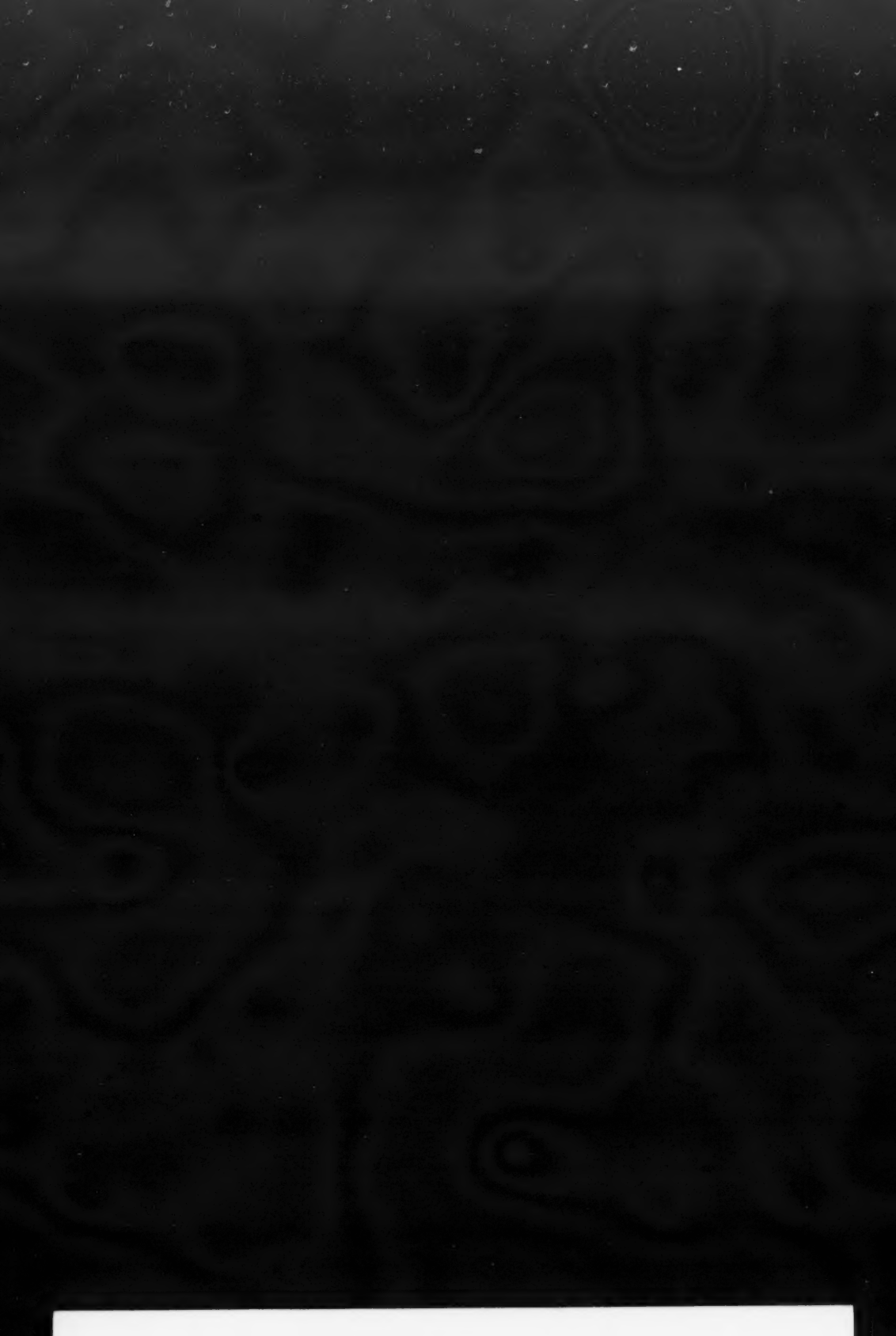
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## Palestine Division Affects Bible Landmarks

**W**HEN the partition of Palestine, voted by the United Nations, is accomplished, where will the Bible shrines and landmarks fall?

Galilee and Phoenicia in the north, Samaria and Judaea in the center, and Philistia and Edom in the south were the large political divisions of the Holy Land 2,000 years ago. The names of regions to be divided under direction of the new world organization bear little relation to the ancient titles of these Near East areas.

### Jerusalem's Walls Encircle Shrines of Three Religions

The projected international zone in the hills of Judaea includes Jerusalem, city of 157,000 people, and a surrounding area reaching east and south to include Mt. Olivet (illustration, inside cover) and Bethlehem. The town where Christ was born is now an Arab community of 9,000.

Many shrines sacred to three great religions fall within this trusteeship zone. Among the most revered are the Wailing Wall of the Jews and the Moslems' Dome of the Rock, the latter sometimes incorrectly called the Mosque of Omar. These structures stand on the rugged mound known as the Rock (also called Mount Moriah) within the eastern edge of the walled Old City. The Wailing Wall, where Jews mourn and pray, is believed to be a remnant of Solomon's Temple, which stood on the Rock.

The Church of the Holy Sepulchre, foremost shrine of Christians, stands within the walled Holy City, on the presumed site of Jesus's tomb.

Other famous landmarks in the neighborhood of Jerusalem are the Garden of Gethsemane, Bethany, Job's Well, and the pools of Bethesda and Siloam.

The Holy Land of the Old Testament ranged "from Dan even to Beersheba." The site of Dan, close to the source of the Jordan River, is in the northeasternmost tip of modern Palestine. Capernaum and Bethsaida, on the shores of the Sea of Galilee, were also in this region of eastern Galilee, which is now assigned to the proposed Jewish state.

### Planned Cities Rise in Modern Palestine

Beersheba today is an Arab town 45 miles southwest of Jerusalem. Center of the Edom district of Bible times, its position is in the far north of Palestine's big southern triangle of desert land. Most of this desert is apportioned to the Jewish state as a colonization area. It holds the Negeb, where shepherds watched their flocks, and Gath of the Philistines.

The third sector of the Jewish state is the fertile coastal plain from south of Jaffa to north of Haifa. Under British mandate, Jewish immigrants have developed scores of communities in this Mediterranean region. These planned modern settlements include Tel Aviv, city of 174,000 Jews; Petah Tiqva, a town of 20,000 inhabitants, east of Tel Aviv; and such collective farms as Giv' at Brenner, Deganya (illustration, next page), and Gan Shemmel. During Bible times, geographic names in this district



AMERICAN COLONY PHOTOGRAPHERS

#### CHURCHES OF TWO CHRISTIAN RELIGIOUS SECTS SHARE THE GARDEN OF GETHESEMANE, BIBLICAL SHRINE

Among ancient olive trees that may have witnessed Christ's betrayal, modern churches honor the Saviour. This garden spot on the westward slopes of the Mount of Olives, overlooking Jerusalem across the Kidron Valley, is preserved by two religious denominations as a sacred landmark. On the site of a third- or fourth-century basilica, Franciscan Fathers have erected a columned modern church at the edge of walled road. Farther up the incline gleam the golden domes of the Orthodox church built by the Russian Czar Alexander III in 1888. Apricot, fig, and hawthorn, and very old olive trees grow on the rugged limestone slopes traditionally held to be the olive orchard where Judas betrayed Christ. This site, sacred to Christians, will fall within the international zone on the partitioning of Palestine (Bulletin No. 1).

## **New Port at Matarani Is South Peru Gateway**

**T**HE newly dedicated port of Matarani, Peru, opens another gateway to the mountain land of the Incas.

The \$4,000,000 development makes use of one of the few sheltering coves in southern Peru, whose rocky Pacific coast is not naturally hospitable to shipping.

### **Rich in Inca Ruins**

Now vessels can unload directly at the dock, a convenience lacking at near-by Mollendo, Matarani's predecessor as the regional shipping point. Because Mollendo does not have a protected harbor, ships had to anchor a mile offshore and transfer passengers and cargo to lighters (illustration, next page).

From the coast a railroad winds high into the Andes, where the Inca Indians developed a notable civilization long before the arrival of the Spaniards. Massive stone walls of fortifications, palaces, and temples remain as evidence of their architectural ability. These walls contain no mortar, but the stones fit so tightly that a knife cannot be inserted between many of them.

On the railroad, 500 miles from the coast, stands Cuzco, the ancient Inca capital which held 200,000 residents when Francisco Pizarro and his men invaded it. Although planes now land at the Cuzco airport, Indian life has changed little. Women carry corn to market in blankets on their backs, and the llama continues as the beast of burden.

### **Continent's Largest Lake**

High in the mountains to the northwest is the 2,000-year-old forgotten city of Machu Picchu, a cradle of Inca civilization. Machu Picchu was not known to the Spaniards but was reached in 1912 by an expedition of the National Geographic Society and Yale University led by former Senator Hiram Bingham.

Between Cuzco and the coast, the winding railroad passes near Lake Titicaca, which forms part of the boundary between Peru and landlocked Bolivia. This is South America's largest lake, and, at nearly two and a half miles above sea level, is the highest body of water in the world on which steamboats operate. The water, although very cold even in midsummer, never freezes.

### **Climate Varies with Elevation**

Nearer the coast, the railroad serves Arequipa, southern Peru's commercial center at the foot of a snow-covered peak called El Misti. Factories produce textiles, soap, and leather goods. Through the surrounding mountains extends the country's principal sheep-grazing area.

The climate is vertical in southern Peru. Matarani and other coastal settlements bake in a nearly constant rainless heat. Inland, the north-south ranges of mountains rise to successively higher elevations, each zone having



included the Plain of Sharon (where David's herds grazed), Nain (where Christ brought to life the widow's son), and Dothan (where Joseph's brothers sold him into slavery).

Jaffa itself is to be made an Arab enclave (an area entirely surrounded by foreign territory).

The northernmost sector assigned to the Arabs, in fertile western Galilee and Phoenicia, contains Nazareth, where Christ spent His childhood and youth; and the site of Cana, where He performed His first miracle by turning water into wine. The southern Arab patch borders the Mediterranean coast and Egypt. It contains Gaza, Ashkelon, and Ashod, strongholds of the Israelites' enemies, the Philistines. Herod was born at Ashkelon. At Gaza, Samson pulled down the temple.

The largest Arab section surrounds the Jerusalem zone and covers most of the hill country of Samaria and Judaea. Familiar Bible names in this region include Tirzah, Shiloh, Shechem, Jericho, Hebron, and the Wilderness of Judaea. Jordan River and Dead Sea form its east border.

NOTE: The Holy Land today and in Biblical times is shown in insets on the National Geographic Society's map of Bible Lands and the Cradle of Western Civilization. Write the Society's headquarters, Washington, D. C., for a price list of maps.

For further information, see "An Archeologist Looks at Palestine," in the December, 1947, issue of the *National Geographic Magazine*; "Palestine Today," October, 1946; "American Fighters in Bible Lands," March, 1946; "Bombs over Bible Lands," August, 1941; and "Bedouin Life in Bible Lands," January, 1937\*. (Issues marked with an asterisk are included in a special list of Magazines available to teachers in packets of ten for \$1.00.)



ROYAL AIR FORCE, LEVANT

**FROM THE SOUTHERN END OF OVAL GALILEE THE JORDAN (left) FLOWS PAST JEWISH COLONIES**

The river leaves the lake near Deganya, a pioneer agricultural settlement of Hebrews. Light fields and dark orchards follow the Jordan southward. At the foot of the lake lies the baked-mud Arab village of Samakh. All this area goes to the new Jewish state.

## The Urge to Explore Thrived in 1947

SEVERAL governments supported explorative research in various parts of the earth's polar regions in 1947 and numerous institutional and private research groups took expeditions to every quarter of the globe.

Rear Admiral Richard E. Byrd's fourth Antarctic expedition was a U. S. Navy project testing ships, men, food, and equipment under polar conditions. Termed the largest exploratory venture in history, it took 13 ships and 4,000 men to the Antarctic through the January-March summer. Its aerial surveys covered a third of the polar continent (map, next page).

### Operation High Jump One of Many Arctic Ventures

Antarctica's first women visitors were two of the 22 members of the Ronne Antarctic Research Expedition. Settling on the Palmer Peninsula in March for a full year's stay, this group by December had mapped a Texas-size area, much of which was previously unexplored. Based near the Ronne party was one of five units of the British Falkland Islands Dependency Survey. Australia, Argentina, and Chile were also active in Antarctica.

In Arctic and sub-Arctic areas, the U. S. Navy's Operation High Jump was but one of many expeditions to study weather and train men. Russians and Danes each sent forth two or more Arctic survey parties. British junkets to Iceland and Jan Mayen Island trained future leaders in exploration. Geological and botanical surveys were made in the Hudson Bay area.

Ten scientists and a crew aboard the ketch *Atlantis* formed the National Geographic Society-Columbia University-Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution Expedition to the Mid-Atlantic Ridge. Swedish oceanographers, using a new method, pulled up ocean-bottom cores 66 feet long. U. S. Coast and Geodetic Survey crews recorded towering undersea peaks in the north Pacific Ocean and the Bering Sea. During the year the Department of Interior's Fish and Wildlife Service expanded its "navy" of research ships all the way to the Palau Islands and the Philippines.

Dr. Thor Heyerdahl, Norway, and five companions on a big balsa-and-bamboo raft made a 4,300-mile, 101-day drift from Peru to the Tuamotu Archipelago. The purpose was to show that ancestors of the Polynesians may have reached the South Sea Islands from South America in similar fashion, drifting with the Pacific's currents.

### Mt. McKinley Conquered Fourth Time

World interest on May 20 centered on the sun eclipse, total in a narrow path across South America and Africa. Most comprehensive of the many observing parties was the Army Air Forces-National Geographic Society camp at Bocauiua, Brazil, 400 miles north of Rio de Janeiro.

History's fourth recorded conquest of 20,300-foot Mt. McKinley found Bradford Washburn in June repeating his 1942 success. In his party of eight, testing Army equipment and taking cosmic ray counts, was Mrs. Washburn, first woman to reach the summit.



a cooler temperature and greater rainfall. Prevailing winds come overland from the east, not from the ocean, and rain clouds usually drop all their moisture before reaching the coastal plain.

NOTE: Peru is shown on the Society's map of South America.

For additional information, see "Finding the Tomb of a Warrior-God," in the April, 1947, issue of the *National Geographic Magazine*; "The Pith of Peru," August, 1942\*; "The Incas: Empire Builders of the Andes," February, 1938; "Air Adventures in Peru," January, 1933; and "Lure of Lima, City of Kings," June, 1930.

See also, in the GEOGRAPHIC SCHOOL BULLETINS, January 20, 1947, "Peru Taps New Oil Field East of Andes;" and "A Slice of Ecuador's Oriente Now Part of Peru's Montaña," October 8, 1945.



R. GUZMÁN MARQUINA

**MOLLENDO IS WEDGED BETWEEN THE DEVIL (OF BURNING SANDS AND MOUNTAINS) AND THE DEEP BLUE SEA**

The Pacific Ocean breaking against the cliffs at this south Peru port is blue but not so deep. Small boats (lighters) transfer goods from steamers to shore. Newly dedicated Matarani, a deepwater port just north of Mollendo, may usurp most of the latter's trade hinterland which includes Arequipa, Cuzco, and the Lake Titicaca region. Winds from inland (rather than from the ocean) account for the dry coastal strip. The other side of the range is greener.

#### COLOR PICTURES FROM THE NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

Reliable aids in visual education are the many separate color pages from the *National Geographic Magazine*. Subjects covered include the United States, foreign countries, and natural history. 48 sheets for 30¢ and 96 sheets for 50¢. Write for subject list and order blank.

## Stamps Illustrate the Story of Geography

**A**S a compact interpreter of geography, the postage stamp has no pictorial equal. It throws in historic sidelights for good measure.

The dictionary defines geography as "the science of the earth and its life . . . the description of land, sea, and air, and the distribution of plant and animal life, including man and his industries." Postage stamps illustrate all these aspects of geography. So varied are stamp illustrations that a few connecting words can link them together in a continuous story of a country.

### Queen Victoria Adorned First "Adhesive"

Postage stamps often bear pictures of outstanding physical features of a country—its rivers, lakes, and mountains. Views of its important public buildings, portraits of its ruler (illustration, next page), and pictures of objects typifying the occupations and industries of its people present a graphic history of a nation.

Stamps are of various shapes. A few are triangular, some are round, but most of them are the familiar rectangles (illustration, cover). The first stamp issued—the one-penny stamp bearing a portrait of Queen Victoria which Britain brought out in 1840—was a rectangle.

The first stamps, like today's, were gummed on the backs so that they could be stuck on envelopes. Postage stamps are called "adhesives" by philatelists—people who make a study of their shape, size, color, watermarks, and all qualities which distinguish them from each other.

Portraits of heads of state are widely used as stamp pictures. The first United States stamps bore a portrait of the first president, George Washington, and one of Benjamin Franklin, first postmaster general. Franklin's picture appeared on the 5¢ stamp, Washington's on the 10¢.

Portraits of all the presidents of the United States through Franklin D. Roosevelt, with the exception of Herbert Hoover (the only living ex-president), have appeared on United States stamps. A president is not so honored during his lifetime.

### Scenic Glories from Coast to Coast Appear on Stamps

Many stamps bear maps—the first tool for the study of geography. A recent issue shows a map of Florida on the green ground of which is poised a large white flamingo. This marks the opening of the Everglades National Park at which President Truman officiated on December 6.

In a series of National Park stamps previously issued, mountains, lakes, rivers, and cataracts vividly depict the country's scenic beauties from Acadia, off the Maine coast (recently nearly destroyed by fire), to Yosemite, on the slopes of California's Sierra Nevada Mountains.

Postage stamps have noted geographic changes and discoveries, and historic events from the founding of Rome down to the present. In 1929, Italy issued a stamp showing the legendary she-wolf and Romulus to commemorate the 2,682nd birthday of their capital. Stamps picturing events in the life of Columbus have been issued in lands he discovered.

Human skeletons unearthed on Kodiak Island, Alaska, and near Mexico City came from strata that indicated man's presence in the New World as much as 20,000 years ago, offsetting views of a much more recent first migration from Asia to America.

In Chiapas State, southern Mexico, signs of a crude culture believed to predate that of Mayas, Olmecs, and Zapotecs were found in a large shell mound opened by a National Geographic Society-Smithsonian Institution survey party under Dr. Philip Drucker. In the same state, native Indians led the United Fruit Company-Carnegie Institution archeologists working on the Zazaleu project to remnants of 11 eighth-century Maya temples.

Motilene Indians living along the Colombia-Venezuela border, discouraged expedition visitors early in the year by raining arrows on them. The Roncador-Xingu expedition, a larger-scale, four-year exploration of Brazil's "wild west" supported privately as well as by the Brazilian government, continued its practical study of upper Amazon resources, transportation routes, and settlement sites for immigrants.

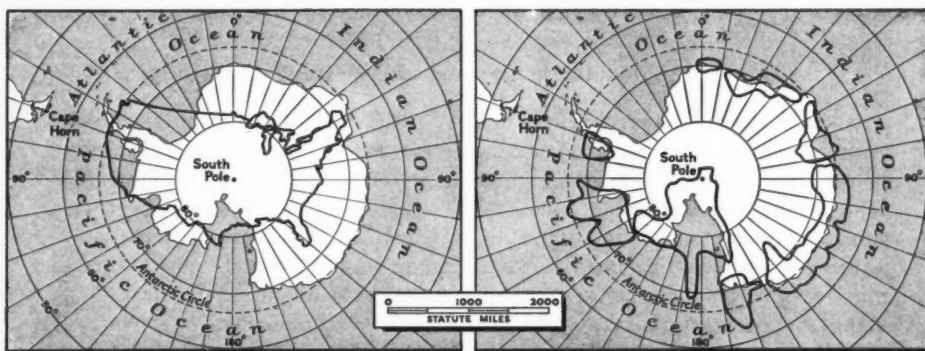
Similarly practical in purpose but at the opposite end of the climate scale were two snow survey expeditions in the Himalaya Mountains for the new Dominion of India. They marked the start of an exhaustive study of India's water resources and were directed by an American, Dr. J. E. French.

British archeologists, uncovering pottery showing Chinese influence at Alexandria, Egypt, worked at the supposed site of the tomb of Alexander the Great, which has so far evaded discovery. Explorers near Cairo noted stone symbols of a ruler of Egypt 1,000 years before Tut-Ankh-Amen.

In the sands of southern Iraq, native researchers uncovered remains of a large Babylonian temple of 6,000 years ago. The site, 14 miles from Ur of the Chaldees, is that of Eridu, perhaps the oldest of all cities.

Oil, coal, and metals were objectives of 930 Soviet expeditions from East Prussia to the Kurils. In the Ural Mountains, petroleum geologists took fossils of dragonflies with three-foot wingspread from the Permian ooze. Skeletons of ancient monsters were found in the Gobi Desert.

NOTE: For additional information, see "Our Navy Explores Antarctica," in the *National Geographic Magazine* for October, 1947; "Eclipse Hunting in Brazil's Ranchland," September, 1947; and "On the Trail of La Venta Man," February, 1947.



MAPS INDICATE THE MAGNITUDE OF THE 1947 ANTARCTIC EXPLORING JOB DONE BY THE NAVY

At left, the continent of Antarctica looms larger in area than the United States; at right, heavy lines enclose regions mapped by planes of the Byrd-commanded expedition.

## Milan Sets Italy's Pace in Art and Commerce

**M**ILAN (Milano), a center of recent Italian labor disturbances, has added great industrial development to a historic appreciation of the arts.

With Turin (Torino) and Genoa (Genova), Milan forms a powerful manufacturing and commercial triangle in northwest Italy. The weaving of textiles—cotton, silk, linen, wool, rayon, and jute fabrics—normally occupies thousands of Milanese. Art in weaving tulles, velvets, and fancy fabrics is high. As early as the 14th century Milan silk was famous.

### Postwar Shortages Hamper Production

Another noteworthy product of Milan's workers was exceptionally fine armor. This was made largely for export, as, in those days, Milan's rulers hired foreign soldiers to do their fighting, while the natives remained at home and cultivated their arts and crafts. Milan craftsmen today are skilled workers in gold, silver, bronze, and leather.

Through prewar years, when plants turning out automobiles, locomotives, chemicals, electrical goods, boilers, pumps, and milling machinery roared at top speed, Milan became a city of a million and a quarter people. Since World War II however, lack of coal and transportation and curbs on foreign trade have reduced production far below its record volume.

Milan's Gothic cathedral (illustration, next page) is one of the world's largest churches. Forty thousand people can crowd into this impressive white marble edifice. Of some 3,500 statues which adorn it, inside and out, only 40 were damaged in wartime raids on the city's industries. Its 15th-century windows of priceless stained glass were carefully removed and stored during the war, and as carefully replaced afterward.

In May, 1946, Arturo Toscanini conducted the first postwar concert in Milan's 168-year-old La Scala Theater, where he had gained his first fame. The Allied Military Government had given priority to reconstruction of this damaged landmark, recognizing its distinguished part in music and opera.

### Canals Tie Lakes and Rivers into Network

Raphael, da Vinci, and the Lombard and Venetian masters of art are represented in Milan's churches and galleries. Leonardo da Vinci's "The Last Supper" has been a magnet drawing countless travelers to Milan from afar. Although the city was founded in ancient times, its relics of antiquity are few because it was several times reduced to ashes.

Milan lies in the fertile valley of the Po River, with the Alps shutting it in on the north and west and the Apennines on the south. Canals connect the city with the Ticino River flowing from Lake Maggiore to the Po, with the Po itself, and with Lake Maggiore and Lake Como. It is Italy's most important rail junction. From it highways lead to the lake region.

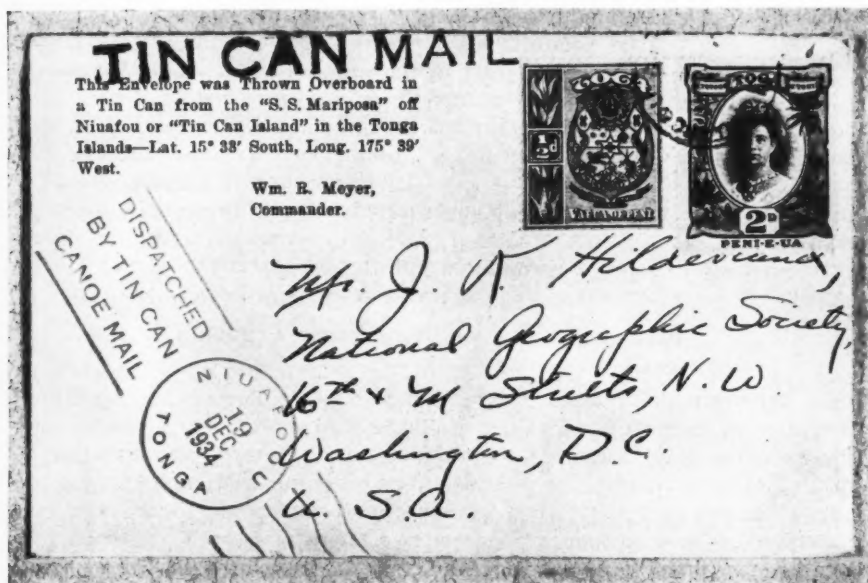
It has been said of Milan that it is the only Italian town which is, in the modern sense, a great city. "She alone is as thoroughly alive, as full of business . . . as restless as the great cities of the North . . . a

To raise special funds, governments sometimes issue semipostals. These are postage stamps sold for a fraction over their face, or franking, value. The Dominican Republic brought out a series of stamps to raise money for a mausoleum for Columbus in San Domingo City (now Ciudad Trujillo). Norway issued a stamp to help finance the flight of Amundsen and Ellsworth over the North Pole from Spitzbergen to Alaska in 1926.

Stamps have commemorated the founding of nations, the birthdays of their leaders, of explorers, artists, scientists, and soldiers. They celebrate accession of territory by conquest or purchase, settlement of disputed boundaries, and scientific achievements. Stamps commemorate the Louisiana Purchase, Edison's electric lamp, and Byrd's Antarctic Expedition II. In 1947 both the United States and Canada issued stamps in honor of the 100th birthday of Alexander Graham Bell, inventor of the telephone.

The United States government issued its first stamps in 1847. For the two previous years, a dozen cities supplied stamps to indicate that postage had been prepaid. Some of these postmaster stamps, or "provisionals," were adhesives. Others were stamped or printed on the envelopes. Cities which issued provisionals include Alexandria, Virginia; Annapolis and Baltimore, Maryland; Lockport, New York; and New Haven, Connecticut. These stamps are prized by collectors. Some of them have sold for as much as \$15,000.

Another rarity is the stamp of a country no longer existing as a political unit. Nations with such operetta-style names as Livonia, Moldavia, and Roumelia have left postage stamps as souvenirs of their existence.



#### TONGA TIN-CAN POSTAL METHODS SUGGEST AN ISLAND'S TOPOGRAPHY

Stamps on a letter from Niuafu bear coat of arms and portrait of Queen Salote, who reigned over the Tonga Isles for 30 years. The "tin can canoe mail" cancellation indicates the rocky cliffs which make landing impossible. Mail, sealed in tin cans, is taken between ships and shore in canoes.



monstrous confusion of old and new . . . wealth and extreme poverty."

Through the 14th and 15th centuries Milan was a republic dominated by the Visconti and Sforza families. Directing its successful commerce, they became patrons of art and science. For Ludovico Sforza, Leonardo da Vinci drew plans for flame throwers, grenades, tanks, and flying machines—weapons which were to materialize in the 20th century. Religious art was Leonardo's recreation.

Milan's prewar industry, commerce, and finance, like that of New York and many other large cities, were directed largely by men who had made their start in villages and on farms. Careers of the Horatio Alger pattern were plentiful in the city that established the pace for Italian finance and industry.

NOTE: Milan may be located on the Society's Map of Europe and the Near East.

For further information, see "Hunting Castles in Italy," in the *National Geographic Magazine* for September, 1935.



DONALD MCLEISH

FROM ONE OF THE CATHEDRAL'S TAPERING SPIRES, A MARBLE ANGEL STANDS WATCH OVER MILAN



